

Date: October 9, 2014
To: DTH Nursing Managers, DTH Nursing Educators, DTH Respiratory
From: AHS Laboratory Services
Re: Venous Blood Gas Orders

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

Effective immediately:

- Venous Blood Gas (BGVR) collection labels will print in the lab when a test order has been placed by Order Entry (OE).
- The default priority for Venous Blood Gas in Order Entry has been changed from B (Blood Gas) to U (Urgent).

Why this is important:

- Notification of a pending lab collection is made by collection labels printing in the lab.
- Previously, when an order for Venous Blood Gas (BGVR) was placed in Order Entry, the collection labels would print at the Nursing Unit.
- Lab would not always be aware of the BGVR collection which occasionally resulted in an extra venipuncture for the patient.

Action Required:

- Staff ordering the BGVR in OE will need to change the priority if it differs from the default of Urgent.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

- Please contact Glenda Stark, Site Coordinator – Specimen Control, at 403-343-4690 if you have any questions or concerns regarding this change.

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

- **Dr. Garnet Horne, Central Zone Clinical Department Head, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine**